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SURABAYA, 30TH JANUARY 2015 – The search and rescue (SAR) operations by Makassar's SAR team continued to be carried out today. Two SAR vessels from Makassar and Balikpapan, 1 sea rider, as well as 1 CASA C-212 aircraft owned by the National Air Force based in Makassar were mobilized this morning to observe the sea, in vicinity of Majene, West Sulawesi and Pinrang, South Sulawesi. Local fishermen were also deployed in order to locate more passengers and objects from the QZ 8501 aircraft.

Last night (29/01) and earlier this morning, local residents located three additional remains – which were suspected to be that of QZ 8501 passengers – on the shoreline of Majene and Pinrang. The remains that were recovered last night had been transported to Surabaya for identification purposes while the two others found this morning are still in Makassar. In addition, local fishermen located several objects which were suspected to be wreckage of the plane and passengers' belongings.

Meanwhile in Surabaya, The Disaster Victim Identification Police Department Republic of Indonesia (DVI POLRI) today announced that three passengers were identified as: Jasmine Rose Ann Santiago (female), Gusti Ayu Made Keisha Putri (female) and Gusti Ayu Putriyan Permata (female). AirAsia Indonesia has officially handed over the remains to the respective families this afternoon.

To date, BASARNAS has confirmed to have recovered a total of 76 remains of which 60 remains have been identified by DVI POLRI, 14 remains are still being identified and 2 remains have yet to arrive at Bhayangkara Hospital, Surabaya.

AirAsia Indonesia would like to take this opportunity to urge the public seeking progress on the search and evacuation and identification process of QZ 8501 passengers to refer solely to official information from BASARNAS and DVI POLRI.

You may also obtain substantiated information only from authorised AirAsia social media accounts: Facebook (www.facebook.com/AirAsia) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/AirAsia)

Our thoughts and prayers remain with the families and friends of our passengers and colleagues on board QZ 8501.

Note to Editors: We ask that members of the news media do not call the AirAsia Emergency Call Centre, as this line is reserved for family members seeking information about those who may have been on board.

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